

House Resolution

No. 39

Introduced by Assembly Member Hueso

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August 16, 2012

House Resolution No. 39—Relative to Suicide Prevention Month.

- 1 WHEREAS, Suicide is the 11th leading cause of all deaths in
- 2 the United States and is the 10th leading cause of all deaths in
- 3 California; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Suicide is the third leading cause of death among
- 5 people ages 10 to 24 years in the United States; and
- 6 WHEREAS, More people ages 10 to 24 years die from suicide
- 7 than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, and
- 8 chronic lung disease combined; and
- 9 WHEREAS, In the United States, one person completes suicide
- 10 every 17 minutes; and

1 WHEREAS, Suicide can strike anyone, regardless of age,
2 gender, sexuality, or ethnicity; and

3 WHEREAS, Untreated mental illness is the cause for the vast
4 majority of suicides; and

5 WHEREAS, The stigma associated with mental illness works
6 against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for
7 suicide from seeking lifesaving help and further traumatizing
8 survivors of suicide; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite these statistics, suicide has not been
10 adequately addressed and people are not well educated about
11 symptoms of suicide and the ways in which it can be prevented;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, A great many suicides are preventable and the
14 number of suicides can be reduced through awareness, education,
15 and treatment; and

16 WHEREAS, There are numerous organizations that work toward
17 providing awareness and help individuals who may suffer from
18 self-destructive behavior, such as suicide; and

19 WHEREAS, These organizations are dedicated to understanding
20 the roots and dynamics of self-destructive behavior and alleviating
21 the resulting social problems for the purposes of saving and
22 creating more meaningful lives; and

23 WHEREAS, Providing suicide prevention awareness on a
24 statewide level may help decrease the number of suicide attempts
25 and deaths in California; now, therefore, be it

26 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
27 month of September 2012 is hereby designated as Suicide
28 Prevention Month in the State of California; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
30 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.